IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kazuo SHIOTA et al.

Serial No.: New Divisional of 08/970,427 Group: Unassigned

Filed: September 19, 2001 Examiner: Unassigned

For: NETWORK PHOTOGRAPH SERVICE SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

September 19, 2001

Sir:

Concurrent with the filing of this Ruler 1.53(b) Divisional application, the following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted for the above-identified application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the existing specification (including claims) with the substitute specification attached to this amendment along with a marked-up copy of the original specification. No new subject matter is believed to have been entered.

REMARKS

Claims 1-48 are in the present application. A substitute specification has been submitted that is essentially a duplicate of the substitute specification filed in the parent

application. The substitute specification has been reformatted to include paragraph and claim numbers, so as to conform with new USPTO procedures regarding amendments that were effective march 1, 2001. Additionally, Applicant present new claims 1-48 to prosecute in this divisional application, which replace original claims 1-8 of the parent application. An early indication of allowability regarding claims 1-48 is kindly requested.

Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters which need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Matthew J. Lattig (Registration No. 45,274), in the Washington, D.C. area, at the telephone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By:

Donald J. Daley

Reg. No. 34,313

DJD/MJL:11

P. O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attached: marked up copy of original specification

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For:

NETWORK PHOTOGRAPH SERVICE SYSTEM

LETTER TO THE OFFICIAL DRAFTSPERSON

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

September 19, 2001

Sir:

The attached one (1) formal drawing complies with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.84. The drawing should be made part of the record of the above-identified application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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